

**NEWINGTON PARKS & RECREATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
TUESDAY, February 19, 2013**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Eileen Francolino called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

II. ROLL CALL

Board: Robert Fresen, Eileen Francolino, Jen Win-Johnson, Mary Udice, Jeff Perillo, Bill DeBlasio, Jim Marocchini

Board Members Absent: Kathy Zolad, Richard Khentigan, Ed Marchion, Don Woods, Superintendent Bruce Till

Staff: Karen Gallicchio and Sharon Glasson

III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF December 18, 2012

Mary Udice made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 18, 2012 meeting. Bill DeBlasio seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 7-0 vote.

IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - None

V. CORRESPONDENCE/COMMUNICATIONS/REPORTS

Monthly Report FROM KAREN GALLICCHIO

Tour of Mansfield Community Center: Bruce, Karen and Sharon took tour of the community center to get ideas for Newington community center.

Extravaganza: Contract was signed and deposit has been sent to Atlas for fireworks. Contract was signed and submitted for carnival using the same company as last year. Bus trip Fundraiser for Extravaganza Fireworks to Mohegan Sun is taking place on Saturday February 23rd almost filled up.

Camp Sunrise: Camp for kids with disabilities, last year worked with Wethersfield to keep transportation cost low. Newington Parks and Rec pays out \$300.00 per child plus transportation hoping to work with Wethersfield again this year, have been in contact with Wethersfield just need to finalize.

Men's Softball Advisory Committee: To meet in March with all the team reps to make sure everyone is 100% on board with the new rules. Want to continue it as a parks and rec run league.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

Extravaganza: Bus trip to take place on Saturday February 23rd, event responsibilities will be divided among the staff within the office so every year we don't have to start fresh and there will be some knowledge transfer and kept in house. New event this year will be 5k Road race in lieu of family field day this year to see if that has a better turn out.

Building Committee update: Bill DeBlasio mentioned the building committee reviewed 13 quotes and have narrowed down to five companies that were interviewed and have now narrowed down to three companies and the town will do further negotiations with those three companies in the next coming weeks. Meeting on the March 4th with Olsen to go thru needs and

wants for the center and select a construction management team. Referendum may not be until next year. Scheme I-3 (soccer fields) is the site the committee has chosen, no alternative site has been chosen. Eileen mentioned that there was some concern expressed at the town committee meeting about the use of open space/undeveloped land in town and she feels it will be an issue that will be addressed to the building committee. Construction manager should be chosen by the March 18th building committee meeting.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

Pool Analysis: Three bids, Bruce went with the lower bid for pool analysis services given by Weston-Sampson, CMR, Inc.

Golf Tournament: will take place on May 13th at Indian Hill Country Club. Michelle is in charge of the golf tournament, all golfer and sponsor forms have been finalized and will be mailed out soon. Platinum and Gold Sponsorships have been adjusted and price has been lowered to make higher sponsorships more appealing and bring in more revenue. Platinum was \$2,000.00 and is now \$1,500.00 and includes priority seating for the groups.

Community Center Visit – Mansfield: Bruce, Karen, Sharon, and Michelle took a tour of the Mansfield Community Center and received information on the building process. Kurt, of the Mansfield Community Center is willing to come here to make presentations or give tours to board members. It is a 38,000 square foot facility, including the pool for a community of 10-12,000 year round residents. Mansfield Center has indoor gym, an indoor lap pool and therapeutic pool, and suspended walking track around the gym. Kurt gave packets that would be helpful for the design process of the Newington Community Center.

Ice Cream Vendor: New vendor has inquired with the department to be the contracted vendor for the summer. **Motion was made by Bill DeBlasio to keep current Ice Cream Vendor – Nick and not go out to bid. Jim Marocchini seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

During the Town Committee meeting some issues were brought to Eileen's attention regarding the lack of activities for teens and the teen center for the new building be addressed. There is also a lack of understanding by residents about why the town needs a new community center. Jen Win-Johnson mentioned a visual diagram of all programs and facilities being used will help show the town people that a new community center is needed.

Jeff Perrillo inquiring about the summer swimming programs losing money. Eileen does not feel the accounting is done fairly because the campers do not purchase a pool membership along with the camp program. Sharon mentioned that the Playground Camp staff teaches the swim instruction they are not Red Cross lessons and groups are much larger. Payroll is billed to Playgrounds and transferred approximately \$10,000.00 back to Aquatics. Newington Pool Pass revenue is approx. \$30,000.00 per year for family passes and \$8,000.00 per year for individual passes. The expense is high for running outdoor pool and Newington is giving the community a service by providing low cost swim lessons. The department gives some families scholarships or payment plans for those families who cannot afford the cost of swim lessons. The money for those scholarships is acquired from other families on their registration forms people who are purchasing a class can round up what they pay to help other families. Jeff mentioned numbers for the pool costs need to be ready for future community center meetings.

Jim Marocchini would like a teen center to be considered as part of the new community center and more activities for teens be available to them. Sharon mentioned that programs have been offered but not enough interest was shown and programs had to be canceled.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: A motion was made by Jeff Perrillo to adjourn. Jim Marocchini seconded the motion, all were in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 8:25 pm with a 7-0 vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Jay